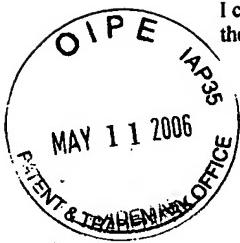
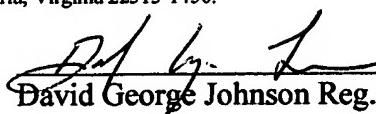


**PATENT**

I certify that this piece of correspondence was deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on May 8, 2006 and sent via first class mail to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.



  
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David George Johnson Reg. No. 31,628

**BEFORE THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the application of: )  
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                                    )  
Andrew Michael Britton     )     Art Unit 2862  
                                    )  
                                    )  
Serial No. 10/733,919       )     Examiner: Tyrone Jackson  
                                    )  
                                    )  
Filing Date: December 11, 2003     )  
                                    )  
Title: FLUX CONTROL SYSTEM     )  
                                    )  
                                    )  
                                    )  
FOR METAL DETECTORS        )  
                                    )  
                                    )  
                                    )

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Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

This document is being submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on December 9, 2005. Accordingly, with a two month extension of time, a response is due on or before May 9, 2006.

**REMARKS**

Claims 8 and 9 have been amended. In the Office Action, the examiner rejected pending claims 8 as unpatentable over Johnson (5,504,428) in view of Takamisawa et al. (5,199,545). In particular, the examiner stated that "Takamisawa et a. does disclose a metal detector that includes an oscillator and adjacent oscillator coils arranged in a parallel relationship (column 4 lines 47-50)".